

Date: July 19, 2022  
To: Alex Elvin – [elvin@mvcomission.org](mailto:elvin@mvcomission.org)  
From: Andrew A. Flake – [aafwc@aol.com](mailto:aafwc@aol.com)  
Cc: George Sourati – [gsourati@souratigroup.com](mailto:gsourati@souratigroup.com)  
RE: Bristol Proposal – 1133 Main Street, Vineyard Haven

Dear Mr. Elvin:

The purpose of this letter is to support the proposed project of Brian and Susannah Bristol to demolish their existing house and replace it with a new home that will be consistent with the historic West Chop Club buildings nearby and also the neighbors along the Main Street extension dirt road.

I have been a year-round resident of Tisbury since 1973 and we are now a 4<sup>th</sup> generation family living on the island. I have known Susannah and her extended family since early childhood and know the existing house at 1133 Main Street extremely well. As a former trustee of the West Chop Trust, I feel strongly about preserving tradition and ties to the past. My lifelong association with Martha's Vineyard and nearly 50 years in residential construction (including many historical restorations) on the island gives me some perspective on recent history. Honoring the cultural and architectural integrity of the Vineyard under the ever-increasing pressures on our fragile community is a balancing act. I respect and support the efforts of the town, local historical commission, and the Martha's Vineyard Commission to re-evaluate and oversee approval processes to help maintain the architectural integrity of the island.

The proposed design is consistent with the existing house while being more conforming in many ways such as the shore zone setbacks, size, height, and sustainability. The house is not on the main road or the "Loop" around the Chop where sightseeing visitors and islanders are likely to drive by. The home is located beyond the "Loop" where the road is dirt and posted as a Private Road. From the water the new design will also be more in scale with houses on either side and very similar to the present home's architecture. The Bristol's architect Paul Weber has helped the West Chop Club with many of its building projects and has designed a house that is consistent and very much in keeping with the historic Club buildings and houses in the neighborhood. The Bristol's are year-round residents, care deeply about the island community, the historical context, and how their design fits into the fabric of West Chop and the island. The proposed design is a sensitive and thoughtful response to a very challenging problem. Their effort to build a beautiful shingle style house that in all ways respects what came before and provides a sustainable future for generations to come has our full support.

Sincerely,

Andrew and June Flake